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THE UNCANNY

X-MEN™

SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH

SUN-FIRE!



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Now...the Amazing **ENERGIZED™** **SPIDER-MAN!**

ENERGIZED

TO CLIMB! Attach the Spider Clamp, turn on Spiderman's energy belt and his web climber goes into action. He climbs doors. Walls. Windows. Fences. Automatically.

ENERGIZED

**TO PULL!
TO LIFT!**

Spiderman's energized web actually pulls and lifts objects heavier than his own weight!

ENERGIZED

**TO POWER HIS
SPIDERCOPTER.**

As Spiderman sits in his Spidercopter, his power turns the rotor. And also sends out a powerful search beam. Spiderman flies by night.

Spider-man is 13 1/4 inches tall.

ENERGIZED

TO THROW LIGHT!

His Spider-Light cuts a beam through the night, lighting the way to safety... or to find the enemy!

The ENERGIZED

GREEN GOBLIN. Spiderman's enemy. He's energized to cut Spiderman's web. power his Goblin Ray gun. A formidable foe for Energized Spiderman.

Green Goblin comes with Web Cutter and Goblin Ray Gun.

ACCESSORY PACK, TOO! A Spider Trap, plus Spider Ray Gun. Rocket Camera. Just attach to Spiderman's Energy Belt!

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Cyclops. Storm. Banshee. Nightcrawler. Wolverine. Colossus. Children of the atom, students of Charles Xavier, **MUTANTS**—feared and hated by the world they have sworn to protect. These are the **STRANGEST** heroes of all!

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

THE UNCANNY X-MEN!

WELCOME TO THE GOOD SHIP JINGUICHI MARU, RETURNING TO ITS HOME PORT OF AGARASHIMA ON THE MAIN JAPANESE ISLAND OF HONSHU AFTER A TWO-YEAR ANTARCTIC VOYAGE.

THE X-MEN HAVE MADE A LOT OF FRIENDS AMONG THE CREW IN THE SIX WEEKS SINCE THEY WERE PULLED, HALF-DROWNED, FROM THE STORM-TOSSED WATERS OF THE DRAKE PASSAGE OFF ANTARCTICA.*



NOW, SOME OF THOSE NEW FRIENDS ARE WEEPING, SOME CURSING, SOME PRAYING THAT WHAT THEY SEE ISN'T REAL... THAT IT'S ONLY A NIGHTMARE.

*X-MEN #117--Reg.

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THE SUBMERGENCE OF



By **CHRIS CLAREMONT**
and **JOHN BYRNE**

With **RIC VILLAMONTE**
GUEST INKER
TOM ORZECZOWSKI
letterer
GLYNIS WEIN
colorist
ROGER STERN
EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

COMRADES...
WE ARE **TEN**
KILOMETERS
FROM SHORE--
YET THAT FIRE
IS AS **HOT** AS AN
OPEN **BLAST**
FURNACE.

ORORO--
IS THERE
NOTHING
WE CAN
DO?!

WHAT
D'YE THINK
CAUSED
THIS?

I... **NO**, MY
FRIEND. I
DARE NOT
EVEN **TRY.**

EARTHQUAKE,
PROBABLY.

MATSUNAGA...
YOUR **FAMILY**?

THEY LIVE...
WEST OF THE CITY,
NIGHTCRAWLER-SAN.
IN THE **HEART** OF THE
FIRESTORM.

MY FATHER
TOLD ME HOW...
TERRIBLE THE
FIREBOMBING OF
TOKYO WAS DURING
THE WAR. B-BUT I
N-NEVER...
BELIEVED...

OK, **KYROSHI!**
KYROSHI!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

THE SUBMERGENCE

COMRADES...
WE ARE **TEN**
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OF *WARRIOR*

By **CHRIS CLAREMONT**
and **JOHN BYRNE**

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BELIEVED...

EARTHQUAKE,
PROBABLY.

OK, KYROSHI!
KYROSHI!

THEY CAME FROM INNER SPACE!

THE MICRONAUTS!

...ARE
HERE!

ON
SALE
NOW!



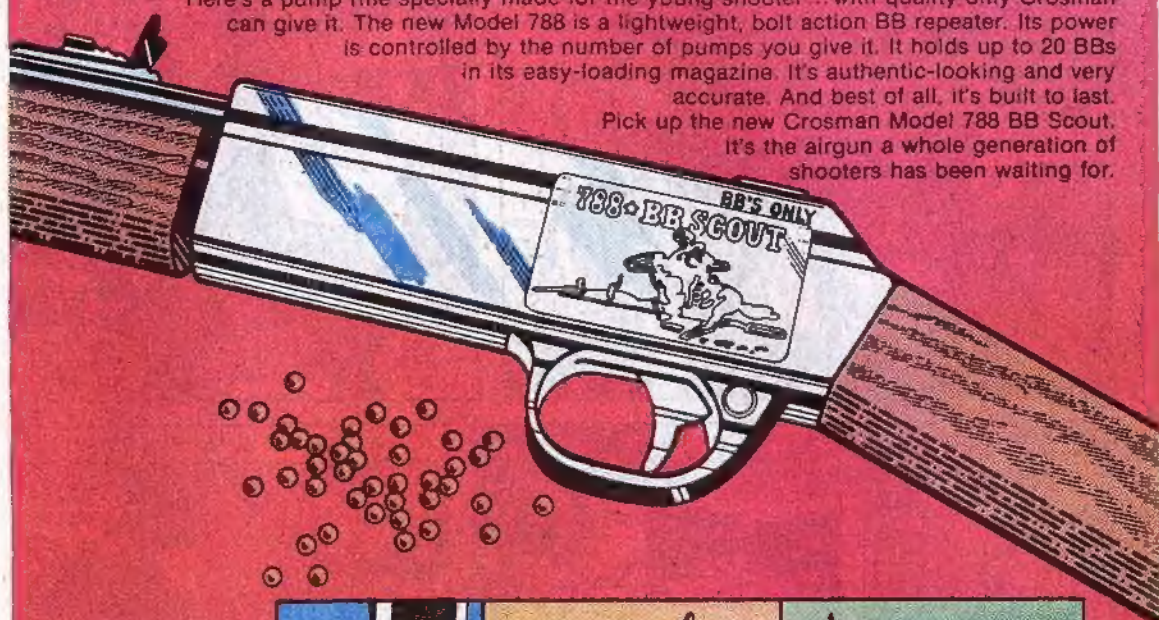
--PLUS THE ENIGMATIC TIME TRAVELLER BATTLE THE EVIL BARON
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Air-Guns

A Calhoun Company





IT'S A LONG, HARD TREK THROUGH THE BATTERED CITY. TIME AND AGAIN, THEY FIND THEMSELVES GIVING DAZED, OVERWORKED RESCUE TEAMS A BADLY NEEDED HAND.



EACH CHILD'S FACE I SEE... IS LIKE LOOKING INTO A MIRROR.



I LOOKED LIKE THIS ONCE, WANDERING THE STREETS OF CAIRO AFTER MOMMA AND POPPA WERE KILLED. *

*SEE X-MEN #102... ROG

THE HOURS PASS, AND CRAMPED INNER CITY ALLEYS SLOWLY GIVE WAY TO THE OPEN PARKLAND OF THE EXCLUSIVE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.



THE AIR IS STILL BLISTERINGLY HOT WHEN THEY FINALLY STOP FOR A REST...

THE FIRESTORM STILL RAGING UNCHECKED OVER A DOZEN MILES AWAY.



I HEARD A MISSIONARY ONCE IN KENYA. THIS LOOKS MUCH LIKE HIS DESCRIPTION OF HELL.

SCOTT, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? I HEARD YOU COUGHING.

I JUST SWALLOWED TOO MUCH SMOKE.

HEY! ALL OF A SUDDEN THE AIR SMELLS SWEETER. THANKS, ORORO.

THIS MAY SOUND MACABRE, BUT I CAN'T HELP WONDERIN' WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PEOPLE. THIS IS A BIG CITY, BUT IT LOOKS ALMOST DESERTED.



PAPER SAYS MOST EVERYONE WAS EVACUATED.



WHAT--?! WHY?

EARLY WARNIN' OF A BIG 'QUAKE.

AN EARTHQUAKE WITHOUT PRE- OR AFTER-SHOCKS? THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.



LOOK, BUB, ALL I KNOW IS WHAT I READ IN THE NEWSPAPERS.

YOU READ JAPANESE?

YUP.



I... DIDN'T KNOW.

YOU NEVER ASKED.

BEHOLD THE MARVEL GALAXY OF SUPER STARS!

THE MAN CALLED
NOVA

**CAPTAIN
MARVEL**

ALL
AT YOUR
NEWSSTAND
NOT VERY
FAR, FAR,
AWAY!

THE INCREDIBLE

HULK

THE HANDS OF SHANG-CHI

**MASTER OF
KUNG FU**

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THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

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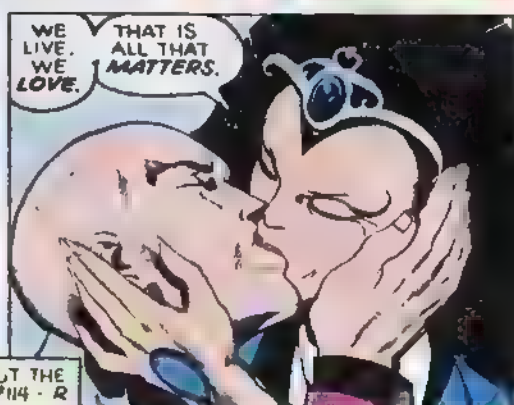
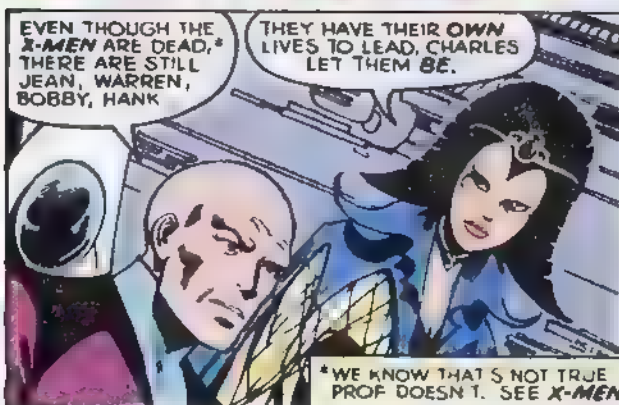
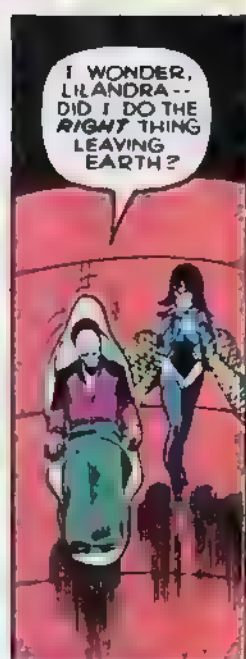
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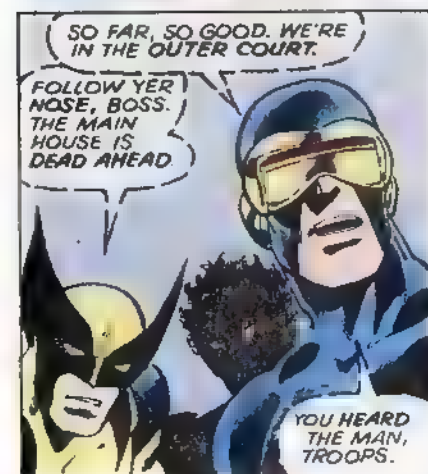
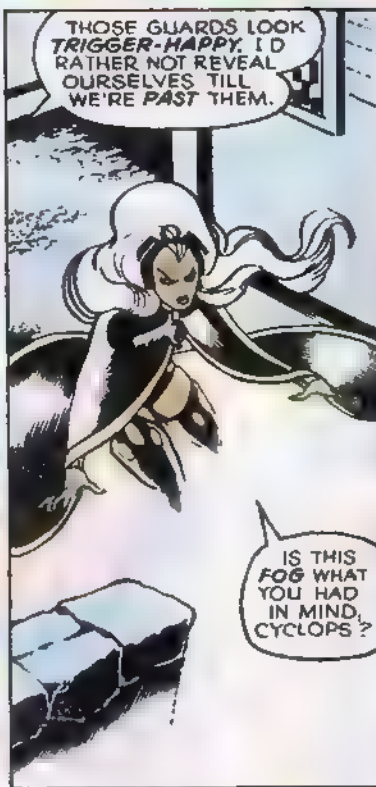
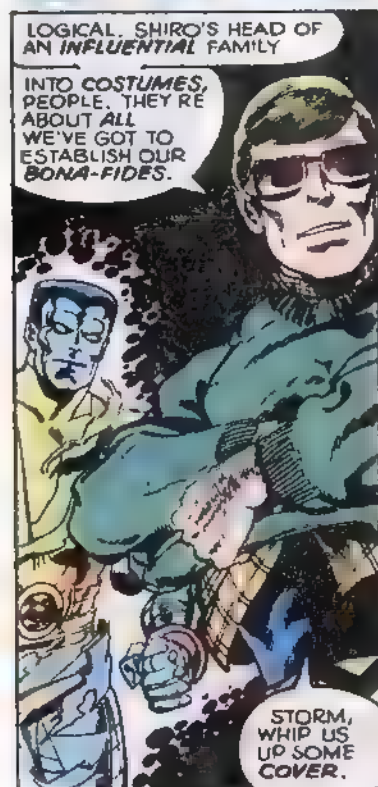
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*WE KNOW THAT'S NOT TRUE BUT THE PROF DOESN'T. SEE X-MEN #114 - R




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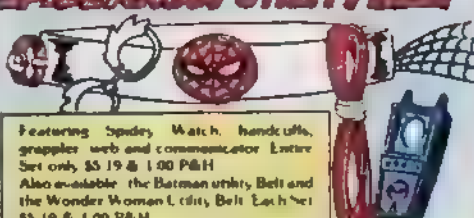
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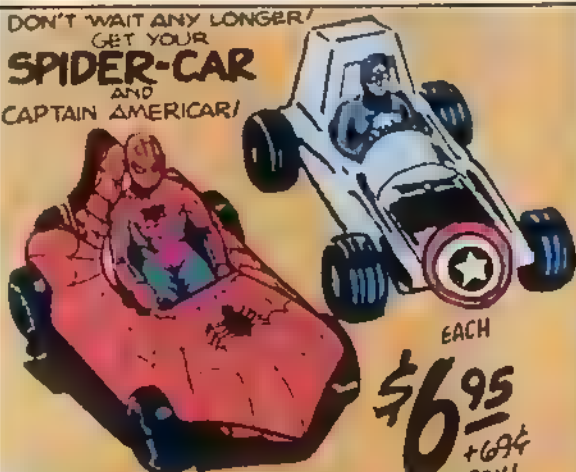
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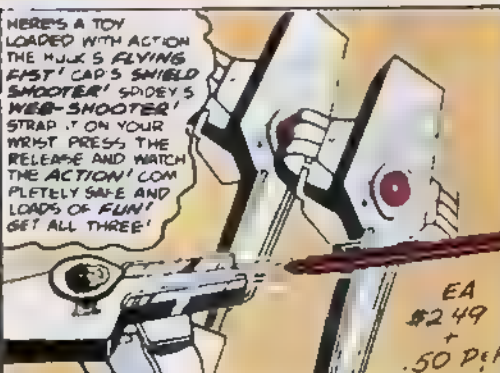
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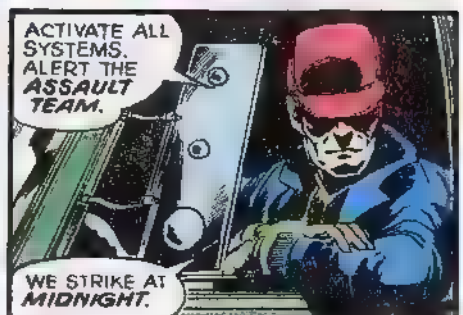
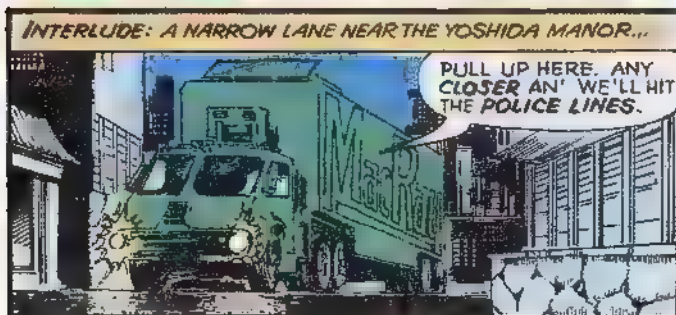
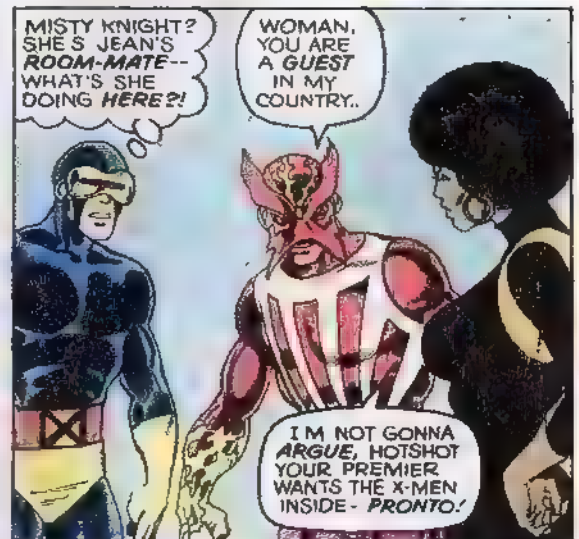
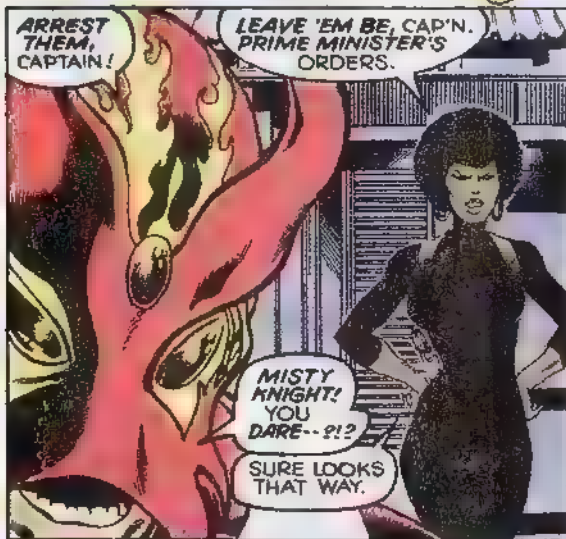
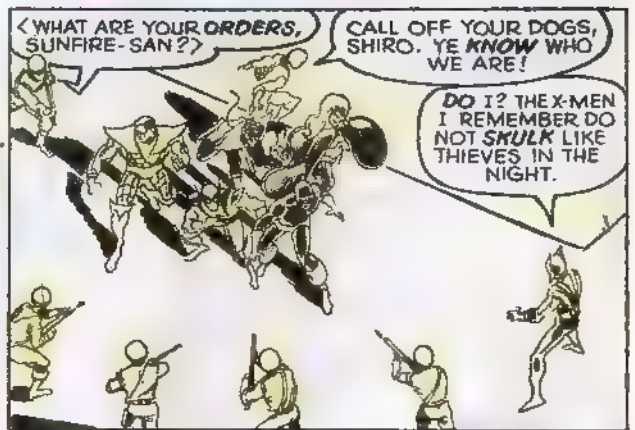
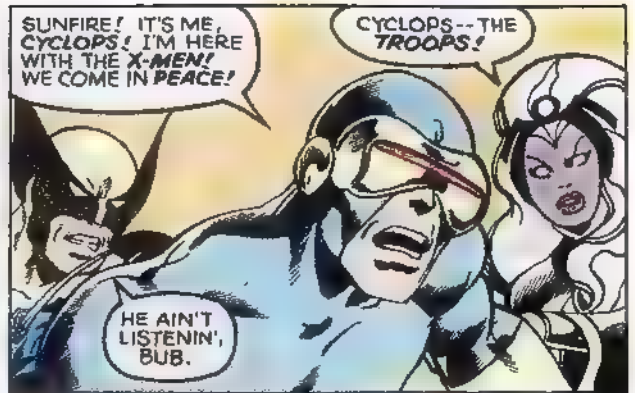
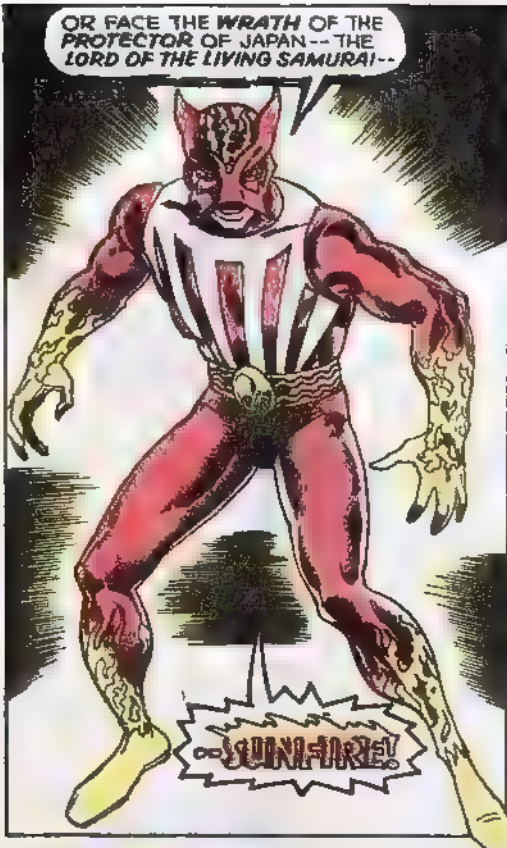
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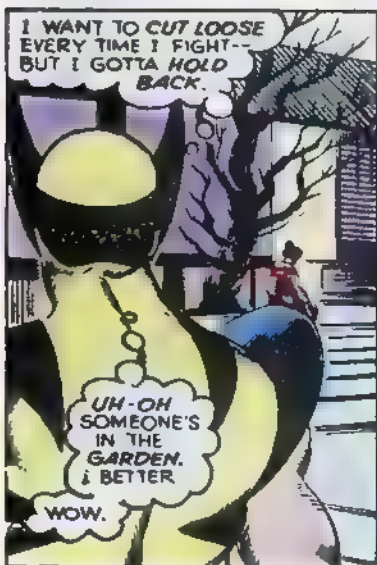
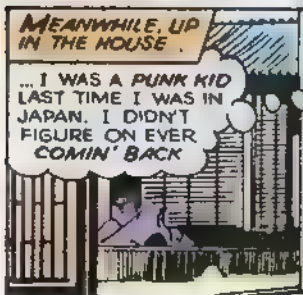
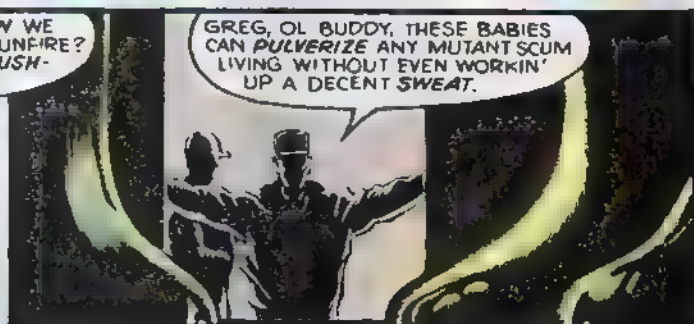
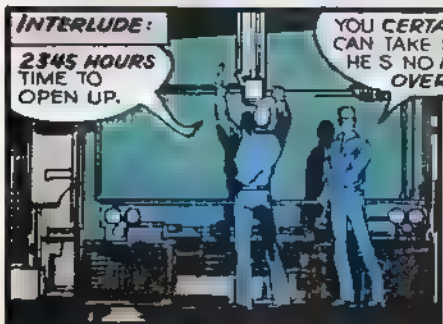
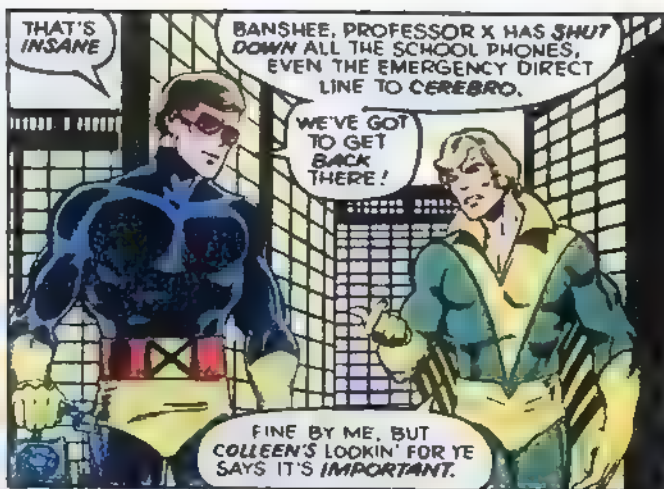
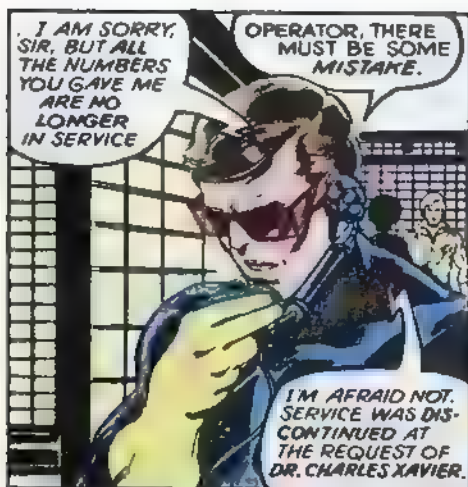
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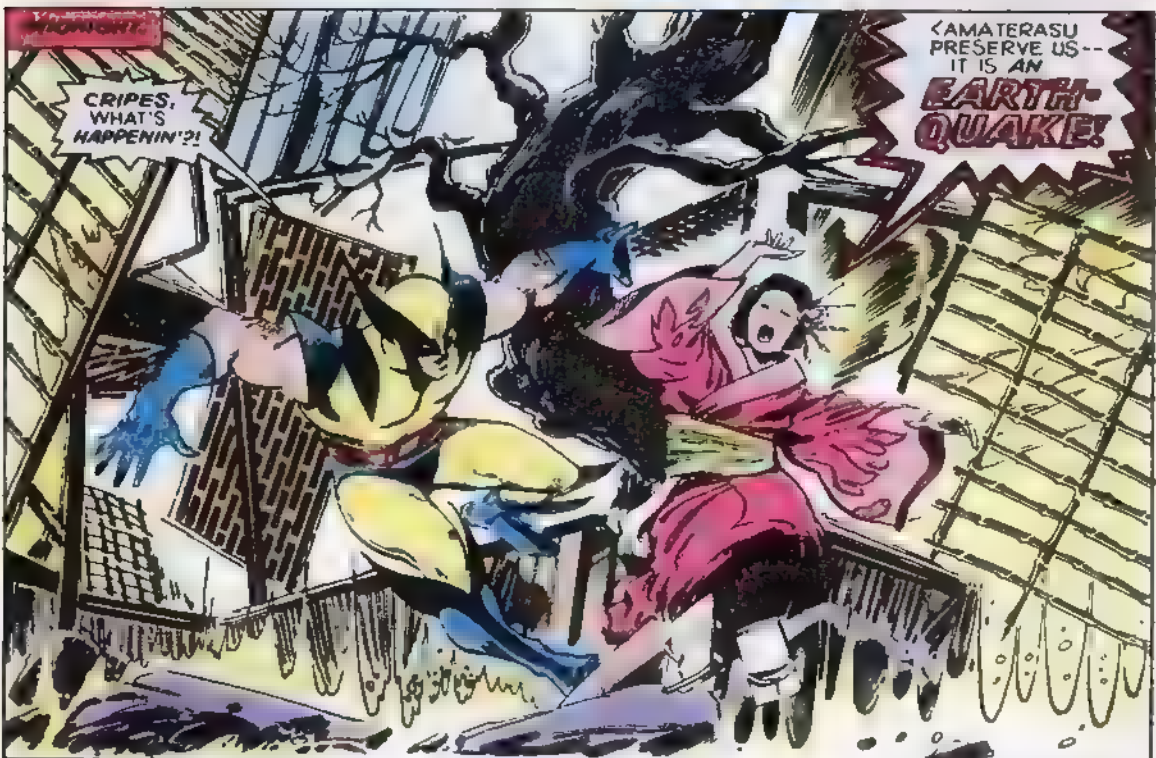
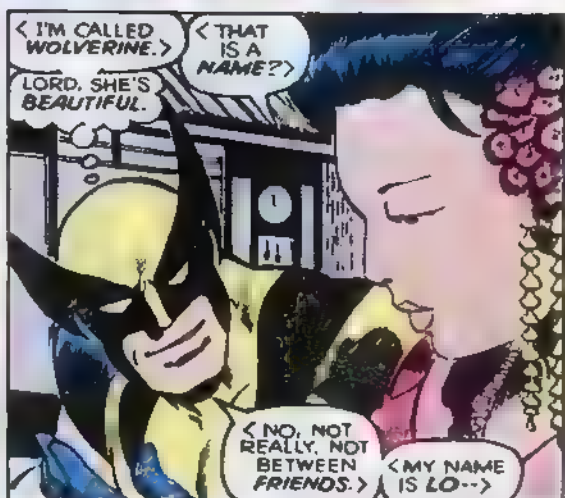
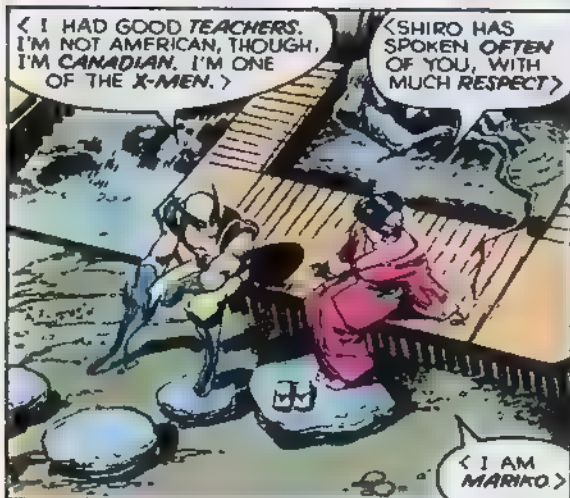
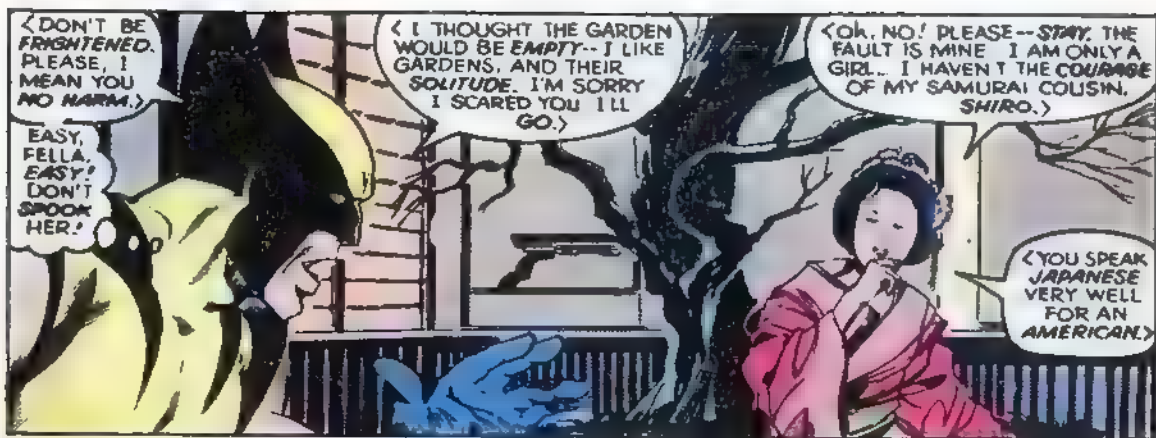
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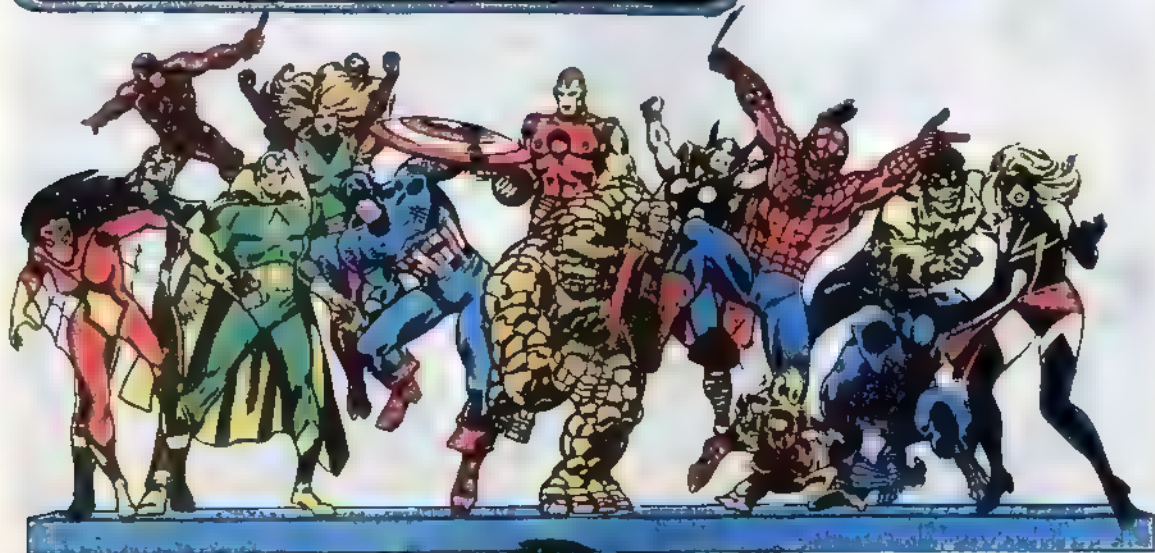
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ROGER STERN
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Ladies and Gents,

Referring to issue #113 of the best Marvel comic book out today—and that is the X-MEN—I must agree with the letter Verde from Meadville, Pennsylvania wrote. Scott Summers is an old timer with the X-Men. I'd love to see each of the X-Men make it. I am a person with a large amount of empathy. I feel, I see, I live, I hurt, and I love with the X-Men. It's my favorite book.

I live my adventures through the X-Men because they're what I dreamed of but yet knew I never could. That's why I'm writing you to say, Thank you very much for giving us the X-Men. For without them, life is not going to be very liveable for us X-Men fans.

One more thing, tell Chris Claremont and John Byrne never to leave the X-MEN. I love your work.

Shirley Autry (McNutt)
Refugio, Texas

Have no fear, Shirley. Neither Chris nor John, nor inker Terry Austin, letterer Tom Orzechowski, colorist Glynis Wein nor editor Roger Stern has any intention of giving up X-MEN unless they absolutely have to. Indeed, all intend hanging around our merry mutants for a long, long time to come.

Dear Claremont & Co.

What is happening in the X-MEN? After all this time, the concept is living up to its potential. #113 was one of the finest stories I've read in a long time, and it brings up some fascinating points. I have watched Magneto from the first issue and he has never particularly impressed me until now. All this time he has been another typical evil-doer intent on ruling the world. Now, suddenly, he is portrayed as a man striving after a goal, perhaps a rather sensitive, lost man unable to stand the hostilities hurled towards him because of his differences. Too many Marvel villains go from one scheme to another at world conquest, seemingly ignoring their continuous defeats. Just look at some of the plans Dr. Doom has hatched over the years. Throw them together and they perhaps appear a bit ludicrous.

But now, now we see Magneto rebuilding an asteroid base destroyed years ago, marshalling his forces in a systematic manner, the way a man might do if he were striving towards something. Isn't that the way life is? We work at a project, set backs come, we give it up/start again/change the plan, but we don't remain the same person, thinking the same way as when we began. Stronger, wiser, Magneto is undaunted. Also, this was one of the few times when the villain did not seem to admit his evil. I have always suspected that were there supervillains in the world, they would not consider themselves wicked. They would rationalize their deeds, as men are wont to do. So, too, Magneto.

The appeal of this issue was incredible, and the line on page 15, panel 4, is one I personally nominate as best line of the year. Such a small touch, but it's amazing just how much personality, how much humanness was there. "Ah, nanny, I thought I built you better than this." Without going through the "I've had a tragic life" Dr. Doom story (who is still one of my favorite villains, despite my words), Magneto was given a personality.

No typical comeback issue was this either. When the X-Men began to slaughter Magneto it gave me satisfaction after all these years and the past issues' defeats. But then on top of that came our heroes seeming defeat. One of the best, well thought out battles in comics, escaping from cliché plots.

Magneto's loss of his helmet was good, his pain and sense of loss coupled with his triumph was well done, and the X-Men themselves have some kind of magic in being a team. Something just clicks in their varied personalities and powers. Although taken separately each member doesn't seem that significant,

together it's instant charisma, an attribute the old team never had.

I think a new era is beginning at Marvel. For years we've seen heroes with personalities. After ten years more is required. Villains change, too, they must. As much as we hate to see them go, a Thanos must perish here and a Kang retire there, simply as a part of continuity. As for Magneto, well, it's hard to stop a man with vision.

James Turpin
Costa Mesa, California

Chris

Wow, My heart is racing. My hands are trembling. My mind is at the same time numb and filled with incomparable beauty. All this after having finished reading X-MEN #113. Finished? No, not really. I'll probably re-read it a dozen times before the week is out.

Thank God. Thank God, the X-Men are now monthly—I feel as though I can see my close family and friends more often. Every time I read your writings, Chris, I am moved, truly touched, deep within me, beyond superficial enjoyment. But this issue, you really outdid yourself!

Where shall I begin? Magneto shorting out the TV camera? A graceful touch.

Or with the scene between Charles and Lilandra? It was lovely to read of the Professor "bumming around"—he is hardly ever portrayed in so human, so casual a light. A small criticism—I'm tired of seeing him with a furrowed brow, sweating and in pain. Give the poor man a break!

Shall I praise your bringing back to me the horrors and indignities of childhood? "Marshmallow soaked in honey" indeed! What ultimate torture! Or perhaps I should discuss the incredible tension of Page 7 and the ingeniousness of finally finding a use for that stupid head piece. Those marvelous flashbacks! Storm is... my friend. And my self. Tough origins—a truly painful and difficult beginning—a thief, a lockpick. But she maintained her gentleness, her caring, and when she cried in frustration I sat in a kind of shattering awe and cried with her. The X-Men fighting as a team and defeating Magneto, as I knew they could. The fast paced action as the roof caved in. The frightening, chilling last page. Wow.

One last criticism. I don't think Colossus could have been fast enough to escape Magneto's wrath.

One word for Mr. Byrne. Gen. us. Even more brilliant than your figures, faces, backgrounds, details, are your layouts. Perfect, every panel. Panels 5, 6 & 7 on page 3, all of pages 15 & 17, panel 1, page 26—these are perfect artwork contained within the perfect shape. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Oh, Ms. Wein did an excellent job, too.

Deborah C. Lipp
62 Towerhill Rd.
Mt. Lakes, NJ 07046

To be honest, Deborah, there isn't much one can say about a letter like yours, you kind of said it all for us—as did Jim Turpin a letter previously. Thanks.

NEXT ISSUE It's the X-Men versus Moses Magnum and his deadly Magnum Force, with a hundred million lives hanging in the balance. It's also a Christmas party, a reunion of some old, dear friends and the first appearance of MUTANT X. It's also, at the moment, untitled. Anyway, it all happens in 30 days—be here!

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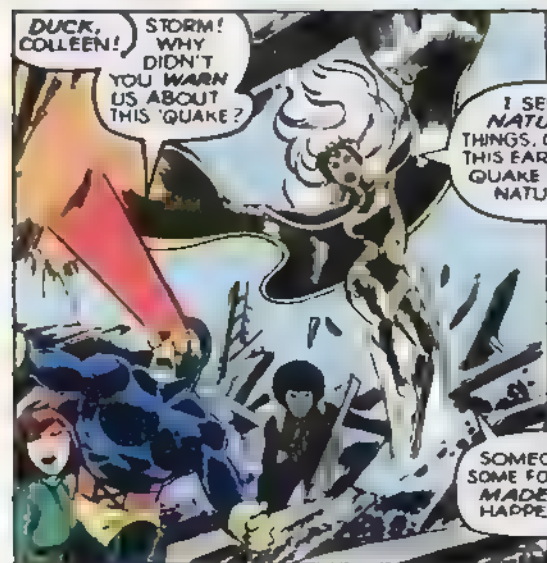
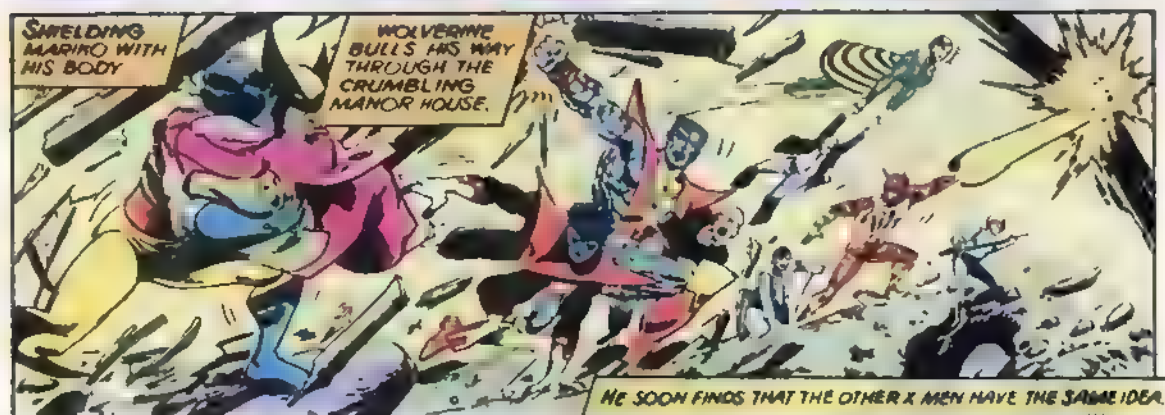
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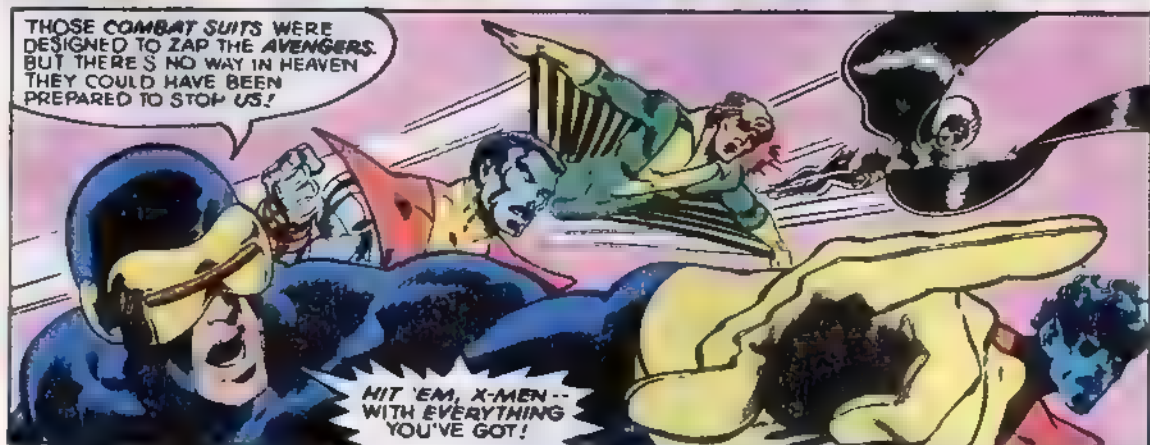
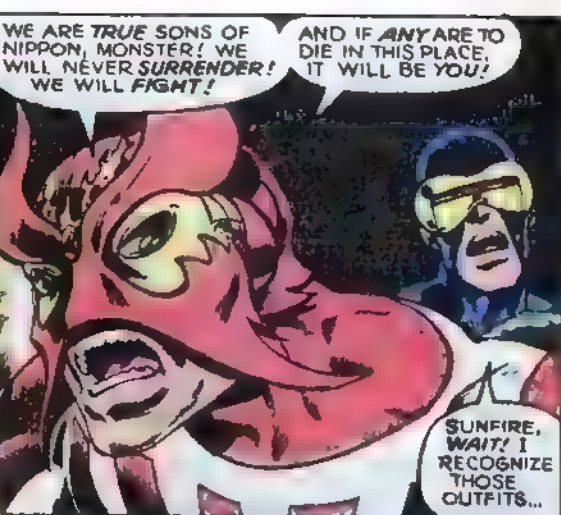
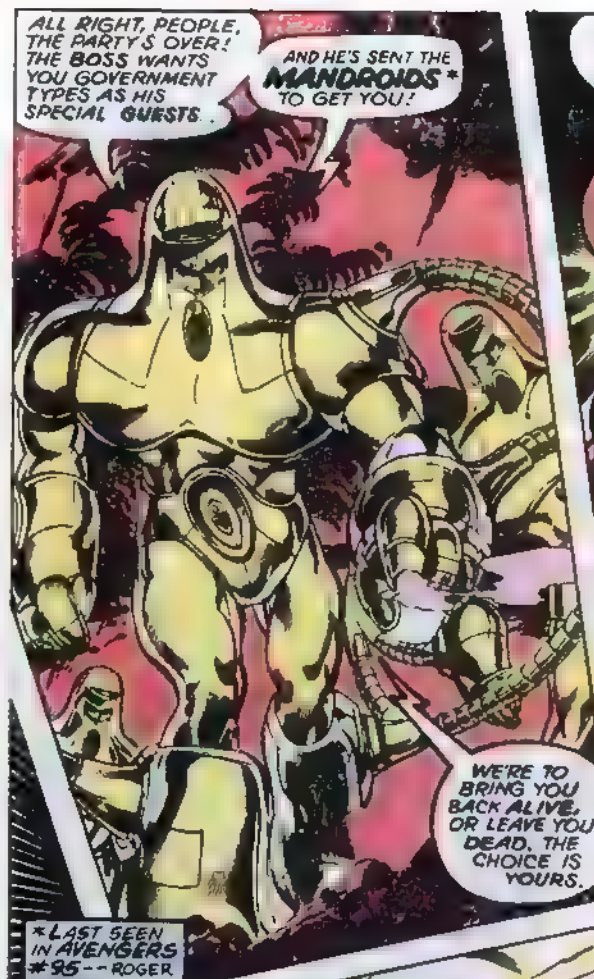
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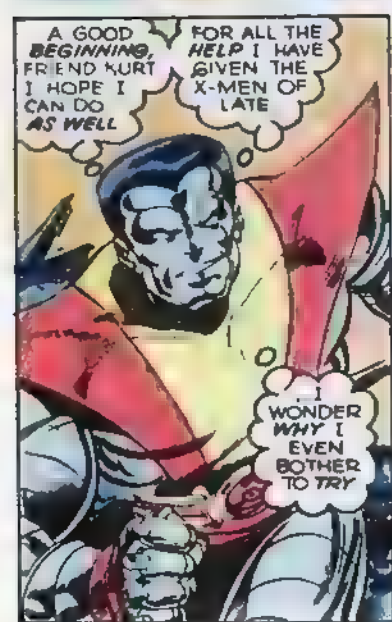
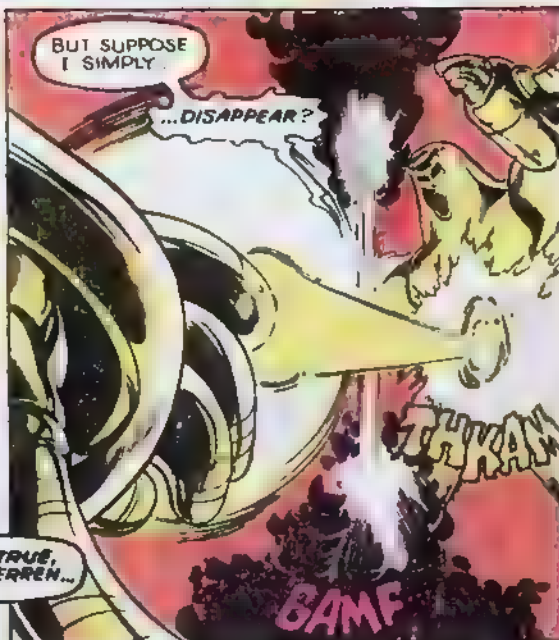
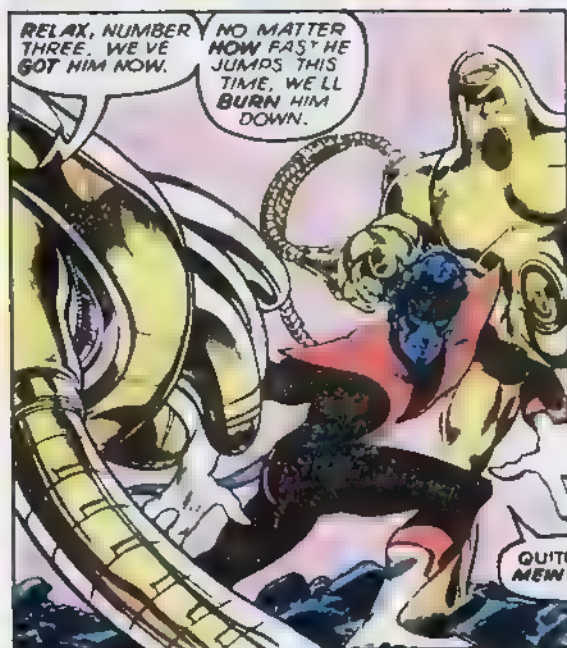
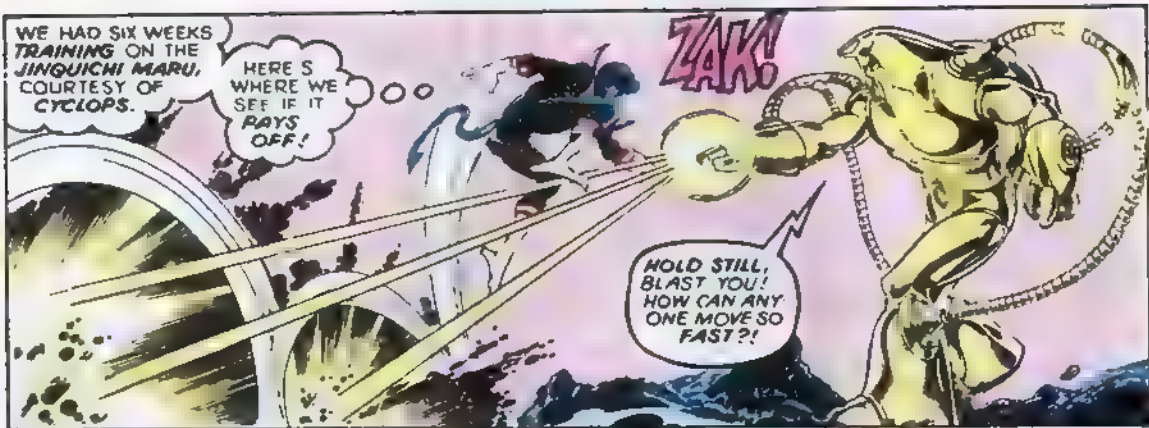
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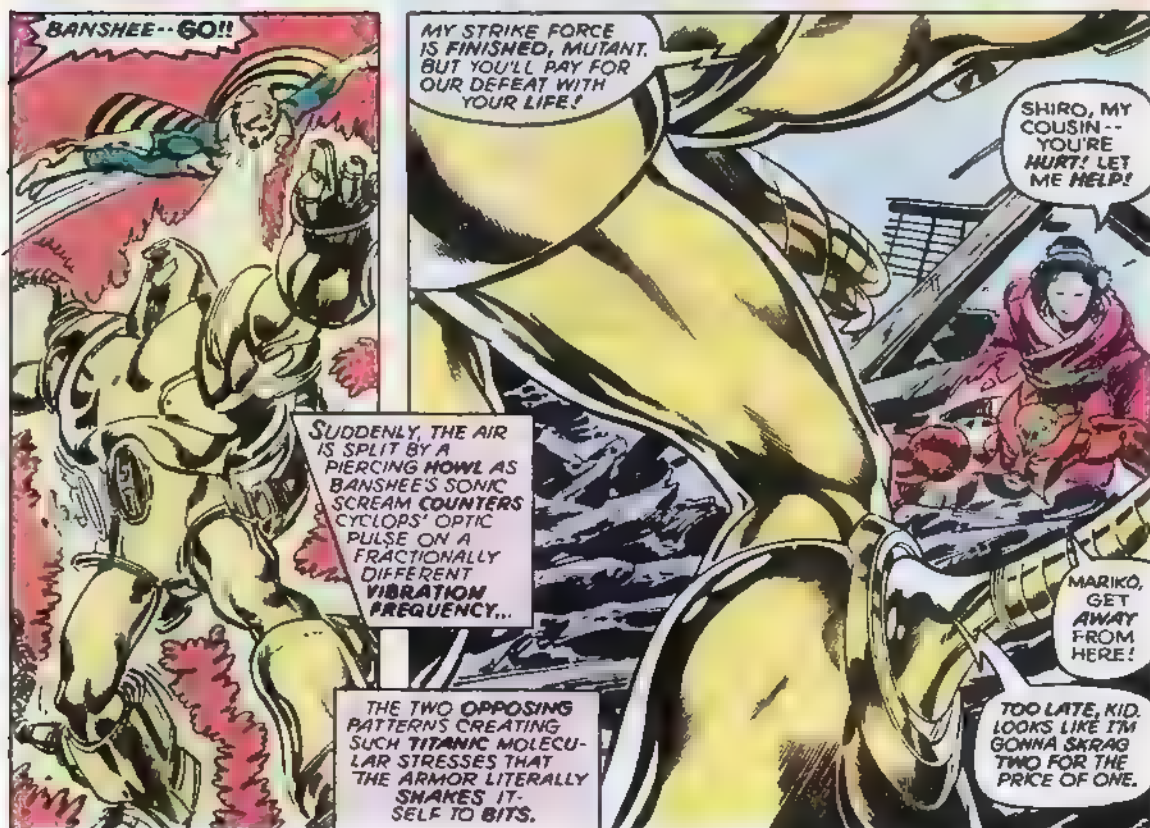
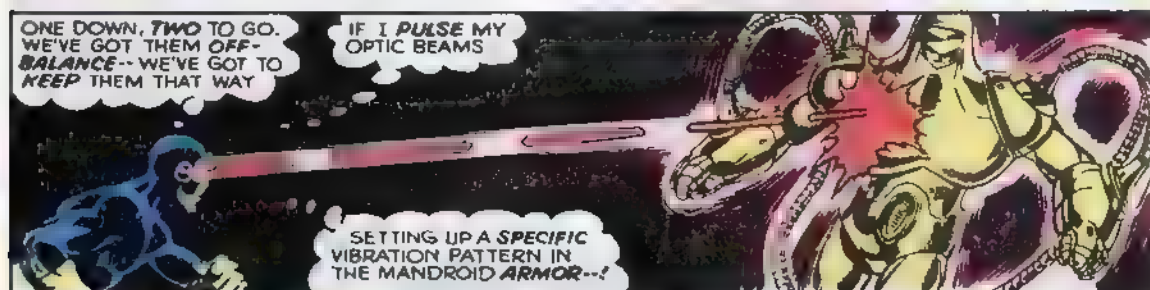
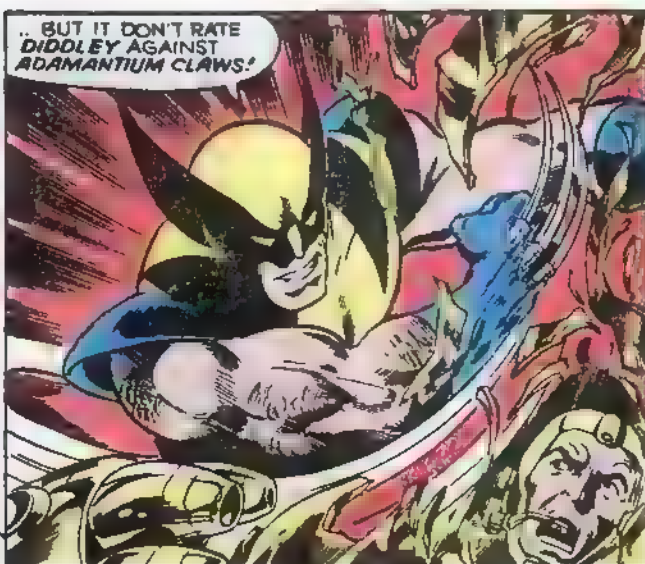
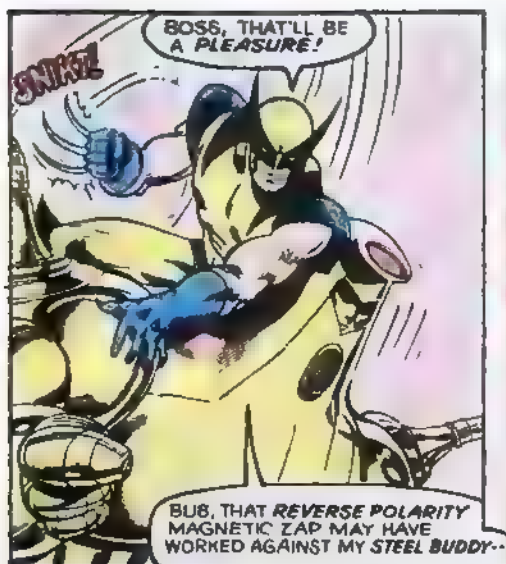
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BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Okay here it is. For once I remembered what I promised to write about last issue! Here's where you get a serious opinion as to the real difference in editorial approach between our competitors and Marvel. There have been more letters asking me to discuss this subject than any other (and I'd hate to find out that they're all from the competitish 'cause they wanna know how we do it!).

Basically, it seems to me that we write about people while they write about things. We're concerned with the psychological problems and urges that motivate our characters, while the other company prefers to dwell on what happened, how did it happen, and how do we catch the bad guy? Perhaps another way of saying it is, we write for the older reader, for those who are interested in true to life dialogue in absorbing subplots and secondary story lines, and in provocative, imaginative themes to boggle the mind. We like to flavor our yarns with satire, with offbeat philosophical concepts, and with controversial subjects. On the other hand, our competitors' mag's are aimed at a younger market, which is the reason their stories are generally simpler and more basic in approach.

Now then, I don't mean to sound smug and self-satisfied. I've been telling you the type of stories we aim for, but I'm not claiming a bulls-eye each time around. As a true believers' group, we've certainly come up with our own share of stinkers of stories that could have been and should have been better. But when we manage to get our act together, we sure come up with some winners!

And now I'll turn you loose while I start to research next month's column. As previously promised, I'm gonna give you the top secret lowdown on the monumental mystery behind Honest Living Forbush—is he man or myth? Is he talent or turkey? Is he bigger than a breadbox? All this and more shall be fearlessly revealed when we meet again next issue. Till then, remember—under the fortune jewel!

Excuse sig

Stan

ITEM! It was one of those days—a desperately late SPIDER WOMAN cover was lost, the stat machine was broken, the water pipes were frozen in August yet! and the paychecks were late. In fact, things were so bad that editor ROGER (Stemo) STERN was seen standing on the 6th story window ledge, reading his last will and testament aloud. Just after he had bequeathed away his INCREDIBLE HULK t-shirt to assistant editor Masterful MARK GRUENWALD, the news came that once again Mighty MARVEL COMICS had captured the lion's share of the prestigious EAGLE AWARDS, British fandom's highest honor. Among the winners were X-MEN for best team and favorite

dramatic series SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN for favorite Black and White magazine HOWARD THE DUCK, for favorite humor series JOHN CARTER WARLORD OF MARS, for favorite new series, AVENGERS ANNUAL #7 'The Final Threat', for favorite single issue story and (oddly enough) that same story, and its sequel in MARVEL TWO IN ONE ANNUAL #2, 'Death Watch', for favorite continued story. Also honored were Timorous TERRY AUSTIN, as favorite inker, Thanos, as favorite villain Pip the Troll, as favorite supporting character and The Silver Surfer, as character most worthy of his own feature. That delightful news perked up just about everyone around the office, especially Roger Stern, proud editor of both JOHN CARTER and X-MEN. Good ol' Rog stepped down off the window sill and headed for his desk, happy as a clam! Mark was somewhat disappointed, however, at not getting his promised t-shirt, but we'll all chip in and buy him one—if the paychecks ever come!

ITEM! A quick welcome actually for newly arrived ace colorist CARL (The Gaff) GAFORD and soon to be renowned inker Able AL GORDON! Check out their accomplishments in MARVEL PREMIERE #46, featuring Man Wolf and SPIDER WOMAN #11, featuring the villainy of Brother Grimm, and then give us the verdict—should we keep these guys, or feed them to the alligators?



ITEM! A couple years back a trio of talented gentlemen named Doug Moench, Paul Gulacy and Dan Adkins combined their skills to bring the MASTER OF KUNG FU series to a breathtaking pinnacle of achievement in comics art. When finally, circumstances separated this award winning team, it seemed that things would never be quite right with Shang-Chi again. For a while each succeeding issue brought new problems, artist and inker changes, natural disasters, plagues of locusts, and all the accompanying schedule ills which disturb the delicate balance of yin and yang necessary to produce Timeless Masterpieces. Undaunted, however, mighty Marvel pressed on, and at long last recruited Miraculous MIKE ZECK, penciler, and Brash BRUCE PATTERSON inker to join Devil May Care DOUG MOENCH, writer, as regulars on MOKF. As each new issue rolls in from these talented and dedicated gentlemen, the feeling grows among those of us at 575 Madison that we are witnessing the evolution of a series destined to rival—nay,

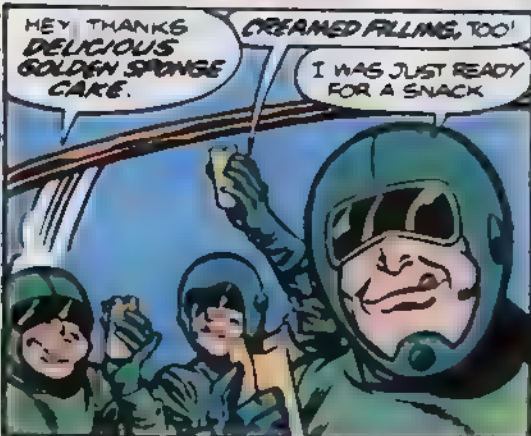
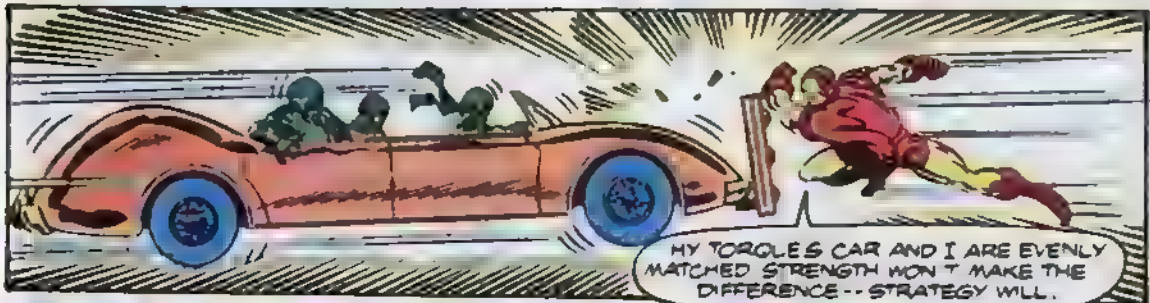
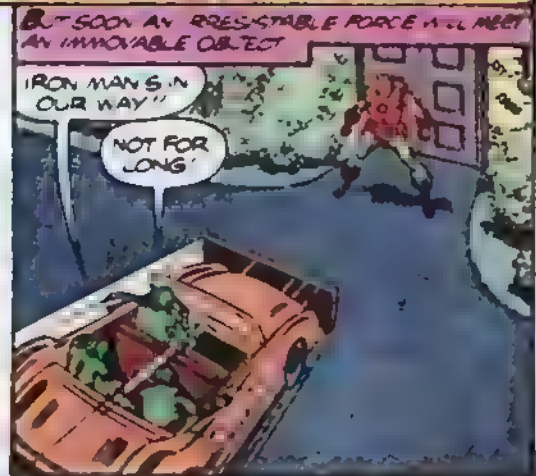
surpass the classics of yesteryear. We could try to describe the way Mike's dynamic yet subtle penciling is complemented perfectly by Bruce's clean, bold, striking ink-line, or how well the sheer lyrical power of the art blends with both Doug's oft acclaimed scripting and Shang-Chi's unique personality, but we won't. Instead, we simply defy Marveldom Assembled to read issue #73 of MOKF, now on sale, which chronicles Shang-Chi's return to dreaded Mordillo's Island! You'll see!

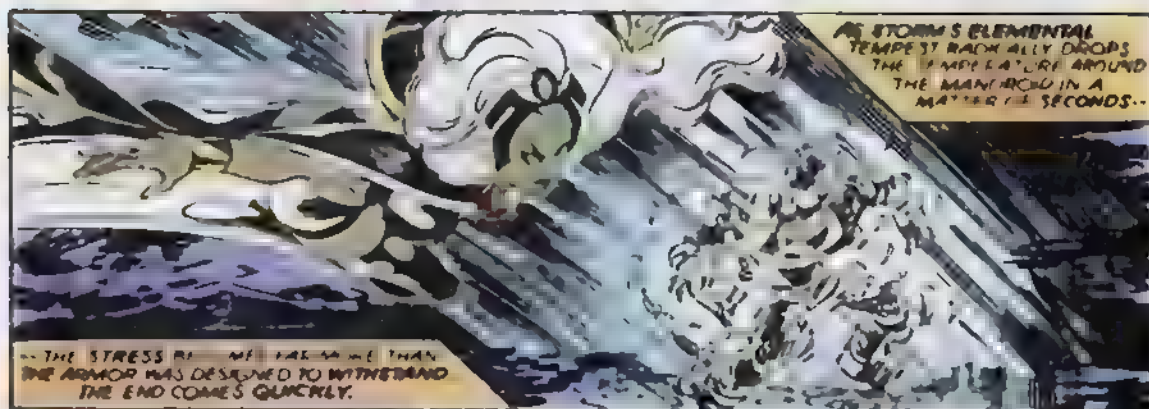
ITEM! Gigantic Editor in Chief JIM SHOOTER answered the phone the other day and who should be on the line but JOHN BELUSHI, star of stage, screen and NBC's comedy hit, SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE! Ever calm under pressure, Jim smoothly said, 'Hey John, you're fine. How am I?' But Jaunty John understood anyway and proceeded to congratulate the Marvel crew for our creative efforts on MARVEL TEAM UP #74, which featured Mr. Belushi and the other wild and crazy members of the Not Ready For Prime-Time Players (shame on you if you missed it!). Later, John stopped by the hallowed halls to meet all the awe-struck armadillos, especially Chris Claremont, Bob Hall, Dave Cockrum and Marie Severin, who crafted the issue in question, and to invite us to the Opening Night party for his new movie, Animal House. It was an honor, a pleasure and a night to remember for us Bullpeners. By the way, be sure to see the flick—it's the cat's pajamas!

ITEM! So many great things are happening we can't begin to cover them all, but pay attention and we'll try to zip through some of them quickly. First, be sure to catch S-E-C-TACULAR SPIDER MAN #27, which showcases the penciling of one of the most rapidly rising stars this industry has ever seen, namely FRANK MILLER. Lanky Frank's portrayal of the web-slinger's characteristic spiderlike movement as he traverses the rooftops is sure to become a standard for spider artists. And wait'll you see what he does with a certain Fearless guest star! After that, check out MS MARVEL #22 and get in on the ground floor of what promises to be a super series of issues drawn by meticulous MIKE VOSBURG. And, you'd be well advised to seek out current issues of both THE HULK and CAPTAIN AMERICA, between the pages of which rage the most memorable crossover of recent history. And as if that weren't enough, HOWARD THE DUCK is a live and well, and don't let anyone tell you different. Get down to your newsstand now, and you won't miss out! Okay? Okay!



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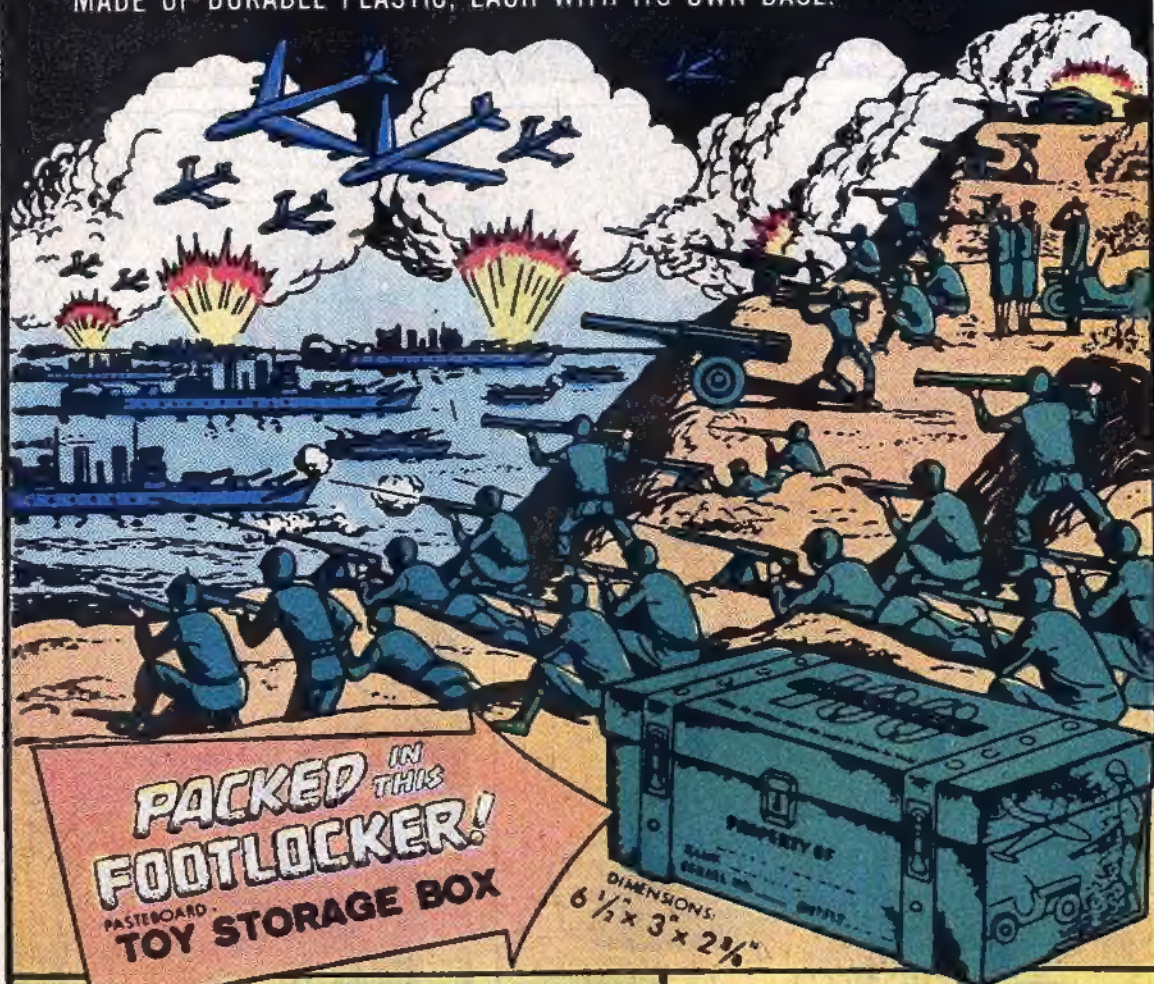
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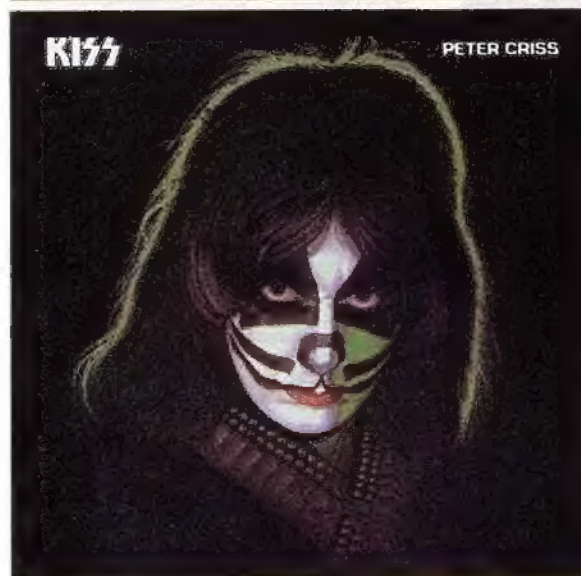
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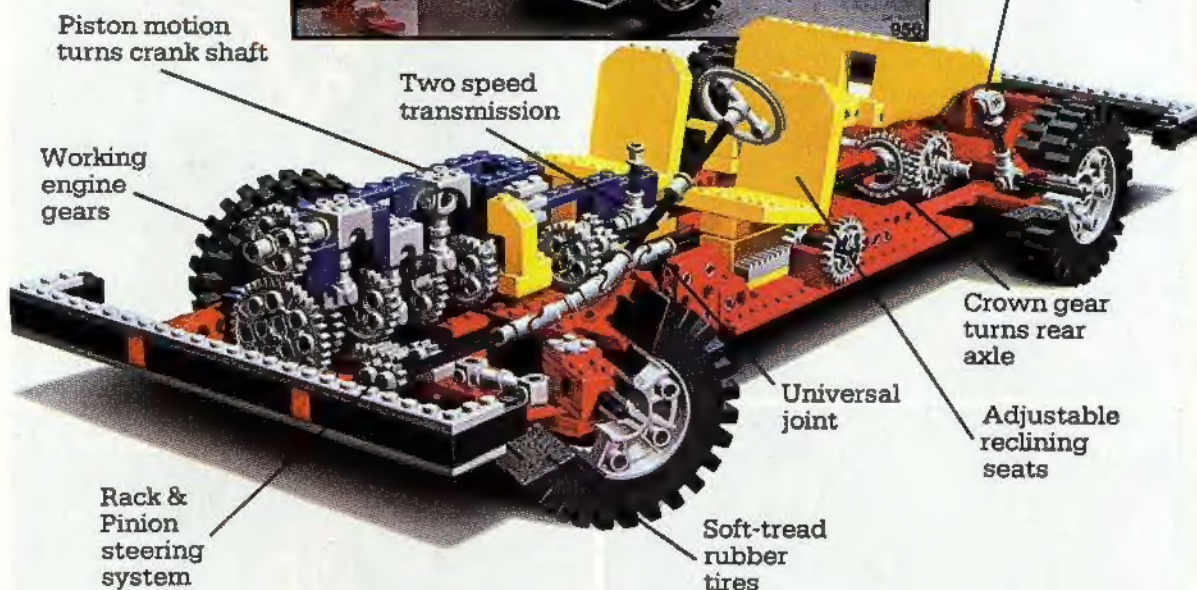
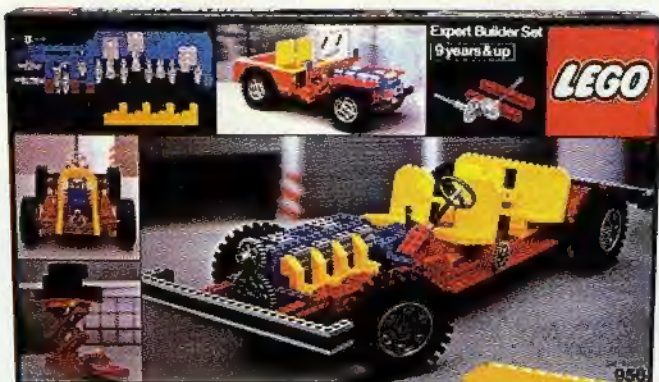
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